GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1467
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
INDO-US CIVIL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT
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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Cooperation known as 123 agreement, has since been finalized;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement reached thereunder;

(c) whether the concerns expressed by India on issues like Hyde Act and reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel etc., have been addressed in the agreement;

(d) whether the Prime Minister has recently met US President on the sidelines of G8 Summit;

(e) if so, the details of the talks held on the issue and the outcome thereof;

(f) whether the Government has decided to release the text of the nuclear deal;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the countries from Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG) have given their support to the nuclear deal;

(i) if so, the details thereof including the countries which supported the nuclear deal and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(j) the benefits likely to accrue as a result of the said agreement?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a),(b),(c), (f) & (g) India and the USA have finalised the text of an Agreement on full civil nuclear cooperation which reflects the understandings of July 2005 and March 2006 and the commitments of Prime Minister to Parliament on August 17, 2006. The full text of the Agreement has been made public on August 3, 2007.

(d) & (e) Five rounds of negotiations were held between June 2006 and July 2007. The Prime Minister met the US President, George Bush, on the sidelines of the G-8 Summit in June 2007 and both leaders reiterated their commitment to the early conclusion of the bilateral agreement in Civil Nuclear Cooperation.

(h) & (i) Important NSG countries such as UK, France and Russia have welcomed the positive development with regard to the India-U.S. understandings on Civil Nuclear cooperation. The matter continues to be under discussion with NSG members.

(j) The Agreement would enable India to meet the twin challenges of energy security and sustainable development and remove the technology denial regimes that have for decades been a major constraint on our development.